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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/708,400	
	Filing Date	March 1, 2004	
	First Named Inventor	Takaya Otsuki	
	Art Unit	2835	
	Examiner Name	Gregory D. Thompson	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	39	Attorney Docket Number	18.017-AG

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
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<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	Judge Patent Firm		
Signature			
Printed name	James W. Judge		
Date	December 20, 2004	Reg. No.	42,701

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No.	:	10/708,400	Confirmation No. 2399
Applicant	:	Takaya Otsuki, et al.	
Filed	:	March 1, 2004	
Tech. Cntr./Art Unit	:	2835	
Examiner	:	Gregory D. Thompson	
Docket No.	:	18.017-AG	
Customer No.	:	29453	

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This constitutes an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. The attached documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08A are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention in the patent application identified above.

REMARKS

Of the presently submitted references, Cite Nos. F1 and F2 as listed on Form PTO/SB/08A are not in English.

Concise Explanation of Relevance/Copy of Translation
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)

Machine translations in English of the entire specifications, including the abstracts, for Cite Nos. F1 and F2 are readily available to the applicant through the Japanese Patent Office Web site.

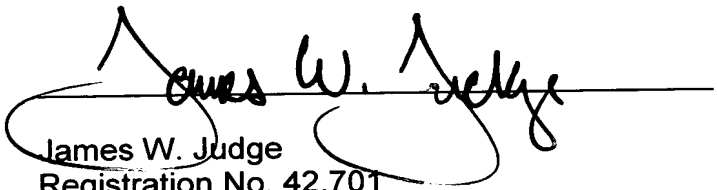
App. No. 10/708,400
IDS Submission

Accordingly, attached to the back of each of Cite Nos. F1 and F2 is a copy of the entire corresponding machine translation of the specification.

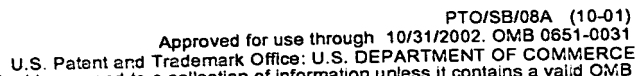
The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider these references, and to indicate so on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08A and make the document of record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

December 20, 2004


James W. Judge
Registration No. 42,701

JUDGE PATENT FIRM
Rivière Shukugawa 3rd Fl.
3-1 Wakamatsu-cho
Nishinomiya-shi, Hyogo 662-0035
JAPAN
Telephone: **305-938-7119**
Voicemail/Fax: **703-997-4565**



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/708,400
Filing Date	March 1, 2004
First Named Inventor	Takaya Otsuki
Art Unit	2835
Examiner Name	Gregory D. Thompson
Attorney Docket Number	18.017-AG

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ²	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	F1	JP-2003-258473-A	09-12-2003	Yoshiyasu Sasa		✓
	F2	JP-2004-235171-A	08-19-2004	Yoshiyasu Sasa		✓

Examiner
Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

English language Translation is attached.

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